

Closing remarks: I am writing to inquire about ...
Closing remarks: I look forward to receiving details on ...

Unit 10 – 'For and Against' Essays

(**Note:** T should advise his/her Ss to obtain a dictionary of quotations, e.g. *The MacMillan Dictionary of Contemporary Quotations* by Jonathan Green or any other book of quotations available)

1 (Suggested answer)

Advantages: quiet, houses are cheaper, safer for children, less pollution

Disadvantages: no cinema or shops nearby, friends live far away, takes a long time to get to school

- 5 (It is advised to draw the diagram below on the board and elicit ideas from Ss; then Ss, looking at their notes, prepare their talk. Ss can look at their notes while delivering their speech.)
- Living in the country**
- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> no traffic noise lower house prices safer for children healthy environment | <p>Disadvantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> no hospitals nearby no shops, cinemas etc. long car journeys to school far away from friends |
|--|---|

(Suggested answer)

... One advantage of living in the country is that it is a safe place for children to play and grow up in. What is more, house prices are lower and there is also far less noise from traffic.

... On the other hand, car journeys to work and school are much longer than they are in towns. A further disadvantage is that there are no shops or cinemas nearby, so life can be rather boring.

All things considered, although life in the country can be pleasant, not everyone is suited for it. It is up to the individual to decide whether the advantages outweigh the disadvantages.

- 6 (Before Ss read the model, T gets them to suggest various points for or against and writes them on the board. Ss then, read the model and check if their points are mentioned in the model.)

Beginnings:

- a makes reference to a strange scene
- b rhetorical question
- c addresses the reader directly

Endings:

- a quotation
- b gives the reader something to consider
- c states a personal opinion

(Suggested answers)

One of the main advantages of view in favour of; **Moreover** = addition = Furthermore; **Finally** = at least; **On the other hand** = However; **more** = Apart from this

(As an extension, T can ask Ss to write beginnings and endings for the topic 'Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of living in the country', using the techniques given on p. 66.)

(Suggested Beginnings)

- 1 Can you imagine yourself living in the country woken up every morning by singing happily? Many people choose this way of life and there are both advantages and disadvantages to it. (addresses reader directly)
- 2 Desmond Morris, the British anthropologist once said, 'The city is not a concrete jungle, it's the human zoo.' This may be one reason why some people choose to live in the country (quotation)
- 3 Isn't it strange how being in the country relaxes us? Because of this, many people decide to live there permanently. There are both advantages and disadvantages to this way of life. (rhetorical question)
- 4 Living miles away from your nearest neighbour with only animals for company, may sound like heaven. It could also be your idea of a nightmare (strange scene or situation)

(Suggested Endings)

- 1 All in all, country life is not everyone's cup of tea. However, in my opinion, leading a calmer and less stressful way of life is more advantageous to a person's well-being than living in the city. (giving opinion)
- 2 In conclusion, where we choose to live is a very personal decision. As musician, Frank Zappa once said, 'Everyone has the right to be comfortable on his own terms.' (quotation)
- 3 To sum up, there are obviously many hardships to country life, but perhaps the challenge could make many of us more self-reliant and ultimately better people. (something to consider)

- 4 In conclusion, living in the country is idyllic, doesn't it? However, there are many who choose this way of life for convenience and bright light (rhetorical quotation)

7 (Suggested answer) DO's

- well-developed paragraph
- justification of argument
- can give you a great idea
- interference from anyone
- linking words/phrases
- more, Finally, Moreover
- quotations - Model 1
- your business ...
- generalisations - Model 2
- reference to specific
- ... a 1996 government
- opinion only in the
- e.g. ... it seems to me

DON'Ts

- informal style (sh, you're, it's, they've)
- one sentence paragraph
- my opinion, see advantages ...
- overgeneralisation
- wants to have the
- personal example
- has opened his
- opinion in the
- In my opinion ...
- blind use of statistics
- show that ...

Model A is a good example

Paragraph p1

Paragraph p1

your own body
Paragraph
working day
credit is given
Paragraph
hours an
businesses
Final paragraph
can also be

In conclusion, living in the country sounds idyllic, doesn't it? However, it is not for everyone and there are many who would not leave the convenience and bright lights of the city. (rhetorical quotation)

(Suggested answer)

- **well-developed paragraphs** – Model A, e.g. second paragraph
- **justification of arguments** – Model A, e.g. This can give you a great sense ... without interference from anyone else.
- **linking words/phrases** – Model A, e.g. What is more. Finally. Moreover
- **quotations** – Model A, e.g. 'If you don't drive your business ...'
- **generalisations** – Model A, e.g. 3rd paragraph 2nd sentence
- **reference to specific statistics** – Model A, e.g. ... a 1996 government study found that over a quarter of businesses ... within the first two years.
- **opinion only in the last paragraph** – Model A, e.g. ... it seems to me ...

DON'Ts

- **informal style (short forms)** – Model B, e.g. you're, it's, they've, don't
- **one sentence paragraphs** – Model B, e.g. In my opinion, self-employment has various advantages ...
- **overgeneralisations** – Model B, e.g. Everyone wants to have their own business ...
- **personal examples** – Model B, e.g. ... my uncle has opened his own shop.
- **opinion in the first paragraph** – Model B, e.g. In my opinion ...
- **blind use of statistics** – Model B, e.g. Statistics show that ...

Model A is a good model

Paragraph plan

Paragraph 1: state topic (for and against being your own boss)

Paragraph 2: arguments for (self-reliant, working day planned for your convenience, credit is given to you only)

Paragraph 3: arguments against (work long hours and sacrifice personal life, new businesses are in danger of failing)

Final paragraph: opinion (can be gratifying but can also be difficult)

- A successful argumentative/discursive essay should be written in a **formal style**, have **well-developed paragraphs** and include **justification of arguments**, **linking words**, **quotations**, **generalisations**, and **reference to specific statistics**. The writer's opinion should only be included in the last paragraph. It should not be written in an informal style and should not include one-sentence paragraphs, overgeneralisations, personal examples or blind use of statistics.

- 8 1 b 2 c 3 d 4 a
Arguments 2 and 4 are in favour of using mobile phones.
Arguments 1 and 3 are against using mobile phones.

- 9 1 b 2 d 3 a 4 c
(Note: Use of quotations adds to an essay. The following quotations can be used as reference. T can select from these the ones he/she feels would be of use to Ss and dictate them to Ss.)

Useful Quotations

History

GAETON PICON – French writer
It is not history that makes judgements, but judgements that make history.

STEPHEN SPENDER – British poet
History is the ship carrying living memories to the future.

CHARLES WORLF JR – American businessman
Those who don't study the past will repeat its errors; those who do study it will find other ways to err.

The future

ERICH FROM – American psychologist
The danger of the past was that men became slaves. The danger of the future is that men may become robots.

SOMERSET MAUGHAM – British writer
It is bad enough to know the past; it would be intolerable to know the future.

JACOBO TIMERMAN – Argentine journalist
One point has already been proved. Everything that happened once can happen again.

Life

JORGE LUIS BORGES – Argentine writer
Nothing is built on stone; all is built on sand, but we must build as if the sand were stone.

NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV – Russian leader
Life is short. Live it up.

Friends

MARLENE DIETRICH – German film star
It's the friends you can call up at 4 a.m. that matter.

NORMAN DOUGHLAS – British author
To find a friend one must close one eye; to keep him – two.

SPIKE MILLIGAN
Money couldn't buy friends but you got a better class of enemy.

Love

H.L. MENCKEN – American essayist
Love is the triumph of imagination over intelligence.

PETER USTINOV – British wit and actor
Love is an act of endless forgiveness, a tender look which becomes a habit.

MAE WEST – American film star
Just a little more loving and a lot less fighting and the world would be all right.

Technology

PAUL EHRLICH – American scientist
To err is human but to really foul things up requires a computer.

ALDOUS HUXLEY – British writer
Technological progress has merely provided us with more efficient means for going backwards.

OLIVE JAMES – Australian critic
It is only when they go wrong that machines remind you how powerful they are.

STAFFORD BEER – British scientist
If it works, it's out of date.

B.F. SKINNER – American sociologist
The real problem is not whether machines think, but whether men do.

Fashion

EDITH SITWELL – British poet
Why not be oneself? That is the whole secret of a successful appearance. If one is a greyhound, why try to look like a Pekingese?

COCO CHANEL – French couturière
Fashion is made to become unfashionable.

CALVIN KLEIN – American couturier
The best thing is to look natural, but it takes make-up to look natural.

Education

WILL DURANT – American historian
Education is a progressive discovery of ignorance.

B.F. SKINNER – American behaviorist
Education is what survives when what was learnt has been forgotten.

Advertising

JERRY DELLA FEMINA – American executive
Everyone has a button. If enough people have the same button you have a successful product.

NORMAN DOUGLAS – British author
You can tell the ideals of a nation by its advertisements.

STEPHEN LEACOCK – British humorist
Advertising may be described as the vain attempt to arrest the human intelligence long enough to get money from it.

MARSHALL McLUHAN – Canadian academic
Advertising is the greatest art form of the twentieth century.

GEORGE SANTAYANA – American philosopher
Advertising is the modern substitute for argument; its function is to make the worse appear the better.

EDGAR A. SHOAFF

Advertising is the art of making whole lies out of truths.

BILL BERNBACH – American advertising executive
Advertising isn't a science. It's persuasion. Persuasion is an art.

Television

FRED ALLEN – American wit
Television is a device that permits people who haven't anything to do to watch people who can't do anything.

EDWARD GUTHMAN

Thirty seconds on the evening news is worth a half-page headline in every newspaper in the world.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT – American architect
Television is chewing gum for the eyes.

Success

INGRID BENGIS – American feminist
The real trap of fame is its irresistibility.

IRVING BERLIN
The toughest thing to keep on being successful is to keep on being successful.

ELIAS CANETTI
Success is like deafness.

COCO CHANEL
That's what success is.

ALBERT EINSTEIN
Try not to become successful.

Animals

GEORGE ORWELL
All animals are equal.

GEORGE ORWELL
When sport is ferocious.

Happiness

INGRID BENGIS
Happiness is a state of mind.

DALY
Act to be happy.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON
Happiness is a state of mind.

FRANK BERLIN – American composer
The toughest thing about success is that you've got to keep on being a success.

ELIAS CANETTI – Bulgarian writer
Success listens only to applause. To all else it is deaf.

COCO CHANEL – French couturière
That's what fame is – solitude.

ALBERT EINSTEIN – German physicist
I'm not to become a man of success but rather try to become a man of value.

Animals

GEORGE ORWELL – British essayist
All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others.

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW – Irish writer
When a man wants to murder a tiger he calls it sport, when a tiger wants to murder him he calls it ferocity.

Happiness

INGRID BERGMAN – Swedish film actress
Happiness is good health and a bad memory.

DALE CARNEGIE – American self-help evangelist
Act as if you were already happy and that will tend to make you happy.

RABBI HYMAN SCHACHTEL – American clergyman
Happiness is not having what you want, but wanting what you have.

ARNOLD LOBEL – American writer
All the miles of a hard road are worth a moment of true happiness.

CHANNING POLLOCK – American actress
Happiness is a way station between too little and too much.

Music

LEONARD BERNSTEIN – American conductor
Music ... can name the unnamable and communicate the unknowable.

YEHUDI MENUHIN – American musician
Music creates order out of chaos.

ODETTA – American folk singer
Music is a medicine that's pleasant to take.

Film

ROBERT ALTMAN – American film director
Film making is really a chance to live many lifetimes.

GILBERT SELDES – American critic
The movie is the imagination of mankind in action.

ORSON WELLES – American film director
The cinema has no boundaries. It is a ribbon of dream.

Theatre

ANTONIN ARTAUD – French playwright
The theatre is in reality the genesis of creation. It will be done.

BERTOLT BRECHT – German playwright
A theatre that can't be laughed in is a theatre to be laughed at.

Science

PIERRE LECOME DE NOUY – French scientist
The point of science is to foresee, and not, as has often been said, to understand.

DEREK PRICE – British scientist
Science is not just the fruit of the tree of knowledge, it is the tree itself.

MAGNUS PYKE – British scientist
Science gives us knowledge of our environment. It sets the scene in which we act.

BERTRAND RUSSELL – British philosopher
What science cannot tell us, mankind cannot know.

Nature

LIONEL TIGER & ROBIN FOX – British anthropologists
In the eyes of Nature we are just another species in trouble.

Language

SAMUEL BECKETT – Irish author
Words are all we have.

JEAN-PAUL SARTRE – French philosopher
Words are loaded pistols.

LUDWIG WITTGENSTEIN – German philosopher
Whereof one cannot speak, thereof must one be silent.
The limits of my language mean the limits of my world.

Health

ARNOLD H. GLASGOW - American academic
Your body is the baggage you must carry through life.
The more excess baggage, the shorter the trip.

RICHIE ALLEN - American baseball player
Your body is just like a bar of soap. It gradually wears down, from repeated use.

Sport

BEN JIPCHO - Kenyan runner
Running for money doesn't make you run fast. It makes you run first.

RICHARD MEADE - British showjumper
In sport you either get tremendous fulfilment or tremendous disappointment. Nothing else in life is so cut and dried.

Food

MIKE HARDING - British comedian
Food is a dangerous article. Too much food makes you fat, too little food makes you dead.

JOHN GUNTHER - American journalist
All happiness depends on a leisurely breakfast.

Business

B.C. FORBES - American publisher
If you don't drive your business you will be driven out of business.

DAVID SARNOFF - American businessman
Competition brings out the best in products and the worst in people.

Money

RICHARD NEY - American writer
Money is a sixth sense which makes it possible for us to enjoy the other five.

MICHAEL PHILIPS - American economist
Money will come when you are doing the right thing.

NEIL SIMON - American playwright
Money brings some happiness. But after a certain point it just brings more money.

Crime

EARL OF ARRAN - British journalist
It's not the people in prison who worry me. It's the people who aren't.

11 (Before Ss write these essays, I state the points for and against and write them, then Ss give the paragraph plan.)

1 Paragraph plan

Paragraph 1: Introduction - state topic, points for and against, state topic again, against owning a mobile phone.

Paragraph 2: Advantages and disadvantages, can be contacted at any time, convenient, can be contacted at any time.

Paragraph 3: Disadvantages, annoying, expensive, reduces concentration while driving.

Paragraph 4: Conclusion - balanced consideration.

2 Paragraph plan

Paragraph 1: Introduction - state topic, points for and against living in the country.

Paragraph 2: Advantages and disadvantages, healthy surroundings, no pollution, noise, less crime.

Paragraph 3: Disadvantages and disadvantages, few shops, takes a long time to reach town.

Paragraph 4: Conclusion - balanced consideration.

12 **Paragraph 1:** Introduction - state topic, points for and against keeping pets.

Paragraph 2: Advantages (good companions, offer security, they can help teach young children care for living things).

Paragraph 3: Disadvantages (they are expensive, they need a lot of care, they tie you down).

Paragraph 4: Conclusion (buying a pet should be carefully planned but can be a rewarding experience).

- It begins with an introduction which states the rhetorical question. It ends with a conclusion, a balanced consideration on the topic.

• (Suggested answers)

- 1 To begin/start with, First of all, etc.
- 2 Furthermore, Moreover, etc.
- 3 On the other hand, etc.
- 4 also
- 5 What is more, Furthermore, In addition, Finally, Last but not least, etc.
- 6 To sum up, In conclusion, All things considered, etc.

- **Advantages:** pets offer companionship, they give you a sense of security, they help teach children to be responsible and to care for living things.

Disadvantages: pets are expensive, they require a lot of care and attention, they tie you down

1 3 5
2 4

(Suggested answers)
Other advantages

- central heating
- fairly inexpensive (as far as rent is concerned)
- hard to find a parking space if you own a car

Other disadvantages

Write paragraph plan from Ss before Ss write their essay.)

Paragraph plan

Paragraph 1: Introduction - state topic (living in a block of flats)

Paragraph 2: Advantages (e.g. always someone nearby, low maintenance costs, public transport is easily accessible)

Paragraph 3: Disadvantages (e.g. bothersome neighbours, no garden for children, limited parking)

Paragraph 4: balanced consideration/opinion

(Suggested answer)

Have you ever wished that the teenager next door wouldn't play his music so loudly or that your neighbours didn't argue at one o'clock in the morning? If you live in a block of flats, the chances are that you have. Nevertheless, living in a block of flats is not always as bad as it may seem.

One major advantage of living in a flat is that you feel secure knowing that there is always somebody nearby to help you in an emergency or watch your flat while you are away. As well as this, flats have very low maintenance costs. For example, with only a balcony, there is no lawn to cut, bushes to trim or leaves to rake. What is more, flats are usually located closer to the city centre and public transport is easily accessible. For those who work in the city centre, living in a flat is a sensible decision.

On the other hand, living in a flat certainly has some disadvantages. Those helpful neighbours may also be extremely noisy and bothersome. This can make life extremely unpleasant, particularly if your sleep is constantly interrupted. Not having a backyard or garden can prove to be a disadvantage for a family with small children. Also, living in a neighbourhood crowded with blocks of flats means that parking is limited and finding a space for your

Unit 10

Taking everything into account, whether living in a flat has more advantages or disadvantages depends upon the individual. For some people it may be an unpleasant experience, while for others it may be ideal. As the saying goes, 'What is one man's meat is another man's poison.'

14 (T elicits points for and against from Ss and writes them on the board, then Ss write their essays as HW.)

(Suggested answers)

For: entertaining, relaxing, educational, cheap form of entertainment, convenient (it's always there, ready to switch on)

Against: too much violence/horror, etc., bad for your eyesight, people don't talk to each other so much, more interesting things could be done instead, it's easy to get addicted to it, it's unhealthy - people don't get enough exercise when they watch TV

(Suggested answer)

Almost everyone owns a television these days and watches it regularly. However, there are many arguments for and against this form of entertainment.

To begin with, television can be very educational as well as entertaining. There is usually a whole range of interesting documentaries to watch which bring sights and sounds into your home that you would not otherwise have the opportunity to experience. What is more, it is very relaxing to sit in the comfort of your own home and be entertained without having to worry about getting dressed up and spending a lot of money to have a good time.

On the other hand, there is often not much censorship of television. Because of this, programmes containing violence, horror and other unsuitable viewing material can be broadcast and watched by your children without your knowledge. Also, watching television encourages people to be lazy and not to communicate with each other.

All things considered, television is something that can be enjoyed by all. However, we must decide what is worth viewing and what is not.

15 1 E 3 D 5 A 7 H
2 B 4 G 6 F 8 C

- Sentences E, B, D, G - Advantages
- Sentences A, F, H, C - Disadvantages

(Suggested beginning and ending)

- Package holidays are a popular way to travel these days. There are many disadvantages as well as advantages to this form of travel.
- To sum up, package holidays seem to be a cheap and popular way to travel. However, one must be prepared for a slightly poorer quality of holiday and perhaps less freedom than one would like.

16 (Suggested answer)

People who are famous are usually financially secure. **Moreover**, they are often given free designer clothes, cars and jewellery by manufacturers who receive free advertising when these items are worn or used. **In addition to this**, they receive first-class service wherever they go. **not to mention the fact** that they have the power to influence other people and are even role models to many. They **also** have domestic help and **least**, they are confident and secure as they are successful professionals.

However, they seldom have privacy and often have to go out in public in a disguise so that they will not be recognised. **In addition to this**, many people take advantage of them and they often lead lonely lives as they never know who their real friends are. **Also**, many suffer nervous strain because of stress. **Furthermore**, some live in fear of being or having members of their family kidnapped. **Finally**, people expect them to look glamorous and happy at all times, which is hard for celebrities to do.

- 17** (T elicits points for and against from Ss and writes them on the board. Ss then listen to the cassette and check if they have guessed correctly.)

(Suggested points)

For: comfortable, convenient, always sure of a seat, more reliable

Against: traffic jams, hard to find a parking space, expensive, fear of having one's vehicle damaged

25 Tapescript for Ex. 17 (p. 70) (to be heard twice)

- A: Sorry I'm late again. That bus is never on time.
 B: Well, why don't you use your car? Then you wouldn't have to rely on public transport.
 A: Oh no, I couldn't stand sitting in traffic jams every day. It's too stressful!
 B: But you sit in them on the bus anyway. At least in your car you'd be more comfortable and it's much more convenient to just hop into the car in

the morning and not stand waiting at a stop.

A: Maybe so, but parking is another problem in the city. The time I'd save waiting for the bus I lose trying to find a parking space.

B: Oh come on, it's not that difficult to find a parking space here. Another good thing about the car is that you are always sure of a seat.

A: I know, but I don't know if I can afford to have a car every day. It is expensive, you know.

B: Well, I think it's worth the expense. Think about how much money you spend on bus tickets and how

(Suggested answer)

Going to work by car, while favoured by many, can be more trouble than it is worth for others. As we saw below are some of the advantages and disadvantages of using public transport and means not having to stand around for buses and trains when the weather is hot. Also, it is much more comfortable and you are always sure of a seat, while often on public transport the buses and trains are so cramped and uncomfortable that you are likely to spend the whole journey standing. On the other hand, going to work by car every day can be expensive as it costs a lot of money to run a car on the road. In addition, you can waste a lot of time looking for somewhere to park. Another disadvantage is getting stuck in traffic jams; not only is this stressful, it is also time-consuming.

To sum up, while many people regard travelling by car to be more stressful and expensive than it is worth, there are those who prefer to travel comfortably to work without the trouble of having to wait for buses and trains.

Unit 11 – Opinion Essays

(T elicits good and bad points from Ss and writes them on the board. At this stage it is important that T asks Ss to give a reason for each viewpoint stated, thus preparing them to write an opinion essay.)

1 (Suggested points)**Good points:**

- valuable: enables communication
- necessary: quick way of obtaining information

Bad points:

- people need to be careful
- suitable for children
- makes you unsociable
- front of screens, etc.

2 A 2

Paul and Joe speak in favour of computers, whereas Julie speaks against them.

25 Tapescript for Ex. 2 (p. 71)

Teacher: Today we're going to talk about computers. Now, I know a few of you use them, but through your computers think about it?

Paul: Well, the way I communicate. You can communicate over the world. I've had friends in America, Australia –

Teacher: Yes – that's right. What about you, Julie?

Julie: A couple of times I've used them, but I should be more careful of the information you give – especially for children. Whatever they like on the Internet, that's right.

Teacher: A very good point. What's your opinion, Joe?

Joe: Well, in my view, computers are a good source of information. I mean it's so easy to find information so on ... and it's almost free. The Internet as it is today is cheaper so people are using it more.

Teacher: That's right. Computers in college is going to grow. We'll all have a chance to use them.

- 3** • **Paragraph 1:** Introduction needs to be re-written.
Paragraph 2: Viewpoint 1. Do not test knowledge by people's physical appearance.
Paragraph 3: Viewpoint 2. A system unfair – people are judged by their looks.
Paragraph 4: Conclusion. (exams are compared to a way of comparing people but this is not fair.)
Paragraph 5: Conclusion. (be changed)